

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 360

To amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to expand the authorization of the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, and the Interior to provide service opportunities for young Americans; help restore the nation's natural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational and scenic resources; train a new generation of public land managers and enthusiasts; and promote the value of public service.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 14, 2013

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BEGICH, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. COONS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to expand the authorization of the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, and the Interior to provide service opportunities for young Americans; help restore the nation's natural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational and scenic resources; train a new generation of public land managers and enthusiasts; and promote the value of public service.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Public Lands Service
3 Corps Act of 2013”.

4 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO SHORT TITLE.**

5 Section 201 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
6 (16 U.S.C. 1701 note; 107 Stat. 848) is amended to read
7 as follows:

8 **“SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES.**

9 “(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the
10 ‘Public Lands Service Corps Act of 1993’.

11 “(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference contained in any
12 law, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the
13 United States to the ‘Public Lands Corps Act of 1993’
14 shall be considered to be a reference to the ‘Public Lands
15 Service Corps Act of 1993’.”.

16 **SEC. 3. REFERENCE.**

17 A reference in this Act to “the Act” is a reference
18 to the Public Lands Service Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C.
19 1721 et seq.; title II of Public Law 91–378).

20 **SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO THE PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE
21 CORPS ACT OF 1993.**

22 (a) NAME AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION CHANGES.—
23 The Act is amended—

24 (1) in the title heading, by striking “**PUBLIC**
25 **LANDS CORPS**” and inserting “**PUBLIC**
26 **LANDS SERVICE CORPS**”;

1 (2) in section 204 (16 U.S.C. 1723), in the
2 heading, by striking “**PUBLIC LANDS CORPS**” and
3 inserting “**PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE CORPS**”;

4 (3) in section 210(a)(2) (16 U.S.C.
5 1729(a)(2)), in the heading, by striking “PUBLIC
6 LANDS”;

7 (4) by striking “Public Lands Corps” each
8 place it appears and inserting “Corps”;

9 (5) by striking “conservation center” each place
10 it appears and inserting “residential conservation
11 center”;

12 (6) by striking “conservation centers” each
13 place it appears and inserting “residential conserva-
14 tion centers”;

15 (7) by striking “appropriate conservation
16 project” each place it appears and inserting “appro-
17 priate natural and cultural resources conservation
18 project”; and

19 (8) by striking “appropriate conservation
20 projects” each place it appears and inserting “ap-
21 propriate natural and cultural resources conservation
22 projects”.

23 (b) FINDINGS.—Section 202(a) (16 U.S.C. 1721(a))
24 of the Act, as amended by subsection (a), is amended—

25 (1) in paragraph (1)—

1 (A) by striking “Corps can benefit” and
2 inserting “conservation corps can benefit”; and

3 (B) by striking “the natural and cultural”
4 and inserting “natural and cultural”;

5 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as
6 paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively;

7 (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(2) Participants in conservation corps receive
10 meaningful education and training, and their experi-
11 ence with conservation corps provides preparation
12 for careers in public service.

13 “(3) Young men and women who participate in
14 the rehabilitation and restoration of the natural, cul-
15 tural, historic, archaeological, recreational, and sce-
16 nic treasures of the United States will gain an in-
17 creased appreciation and understanding of the public
18 lands and heritage of the United States, and of the
19 value of public service, and are likely to become life-
20 long advocates for those values.”;

21 (4) in paragraph (4) (as redesignated by para-
22 graph (2)), by inserting “, cultural, historic, archae-
23 ological, recreational, and scenic” after “Many facili-
24 ties and natural”; and

25 (5) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(6) The work of conservation corps can benefit
2 communities adjacent to public lands and facilities
3 through renewed civic engagement and participation
4 by corps participants and those they serve, improved
5 student achievement, and restoration and rehabilita-
6 tion of public assets.”.

7 (c) PURPOSE.—Section 202(b) (16 U.S.C. 1721(b))
8 of the Act is amended to read as follows:

9 “(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

10 “(1) to introduce young men and women to
11 public service while furthering their understanding
12 and appreciation of the natural, cultural, historic,
13 archaeological, recreational, and scenic resources of
14 the United States;

15 “(2) to facilitate training and recruitment op-
16 portunities in which service is credited as qualifying
17 experience for careers in the management of such
18 resources;

19 “(3) to instill in a new generation of young men
20 and women from across the United States, including
21 young men and women from diverse backgrounds,
22 the desire to seek careers in resource stewardship
23 and public service by allowing them to work directly
24 with professionals in agencies responsible for the
25 management of the natural, cultural, historic, ar-

1 chaeological, recreational, and scenic resources of
2 the United States;

3 “(4) to perform, in a cost-effective manner, ap-
4 propriate natural and cultural resources conservation
5 projects where such projects are not being performed
6 by existing employees;

7 “(5) to assist State and local governments and
8 Indian tribes in performing research and public edu-
9 cation tasks associated with the conservation of nat-
10 ural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational,
11 and scenic resources;

12 “(6) to expand educational opportunities on
13 public lands and by rewarding individuals who par-
14 ticipate in conservation corps with an increased abil-
15 ity to pursue higher education and job training;

16 “(7) to promote public understanding and ap-
17 preciation of the missions and the natural and cul-
18 tural resources conservation work of the partici-
19 pating Federal agencies through training opportuni-
20 ties, community service and outreach, and other ap-
21 propriate means; and

22 “(8) to create a grant program for Indian
23 tribes to establish the Indian Youth Service Corps so
24 that Indian youth can benefit from carrying out

1 projects on Indian lands that the Indian tribes and
2 communities determine to be priorities.”.

3 (d) DEFINITIONS.—Section 203 (16 U.S.C. 1722) of
4 the Act is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through
6 (7), (8) through (10), and (11) through (13) as
7 paragraphs (5) through (9), (11) through (13), and
8 (15) through (17), respectively;

9 (2) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and in-
10 serting the following:

11 “(1) APPROPRIATE NATURAL AND CULTURAL
12 RESOURCES CONSERVATION PROJECT.—The term
13 ‘appropriate natural and cultural resources conserva-
14 tion project’ means any project for the conservation,
15 restoration, construction, or rehabilitation of nat-
16 ural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational,
17 or scenic resources.

18 “(2) CONSULTING INTERN.—The term ‘con-
19 sulting intern’ means a consulting intern selected
20 under section 206(a)(2).

21 “(3) CORPS AND PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE
22 CORPS.—The terms ‘Corps’ and ‘Public Lands Serv-
23 ice Corps’ mean the Public Lands Service Corps es-
24 tablished under section 204(a).

1 “(4) CORPS PARTICIPANT.—The term ‘Corps
2 participant’ means an individual enrolled—

3 “(A) in the Corps or the Indian Youth
4 Service Corps; or

5 “(B) as a resource assistant or consulting
6 intern.”;

7 (3) by inserting after paragraph (9) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

9 “(10) INDIAN YOUTH SERVICE CORPS.—The
10 term ‘Indian Youth Service Corps’ means a qualified
11 youth or conservation corps established under section
12 207 that—

13 “(A) enrolls individuals between the ages
14 of 15 and 25, inclusive, a majority of whom are
15 Indians; and

16 “(B) is established pursuant to a tribal
17 resolution that describes the agreement between
18 the Indian tribe and the qualified youth or con-
19 servation corps to operate an Indian Youth
20 Service Corps program for the benefit of the
21 members of the Indian tribe.”;

22 (4) by amending paragraph (12) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) to read as follows:

24 “(12) PUBLIC LANDS.—The term ‘public lands’
25 means any land or water (or interest therein) owned

1 or administered by the United States, including
2 those areas of coastal and ocean waters, the Great
3 Lakes and their connecting waters, and submerged
4 lands over which the United States exercises juris-
5 diction, except that such term does not include In-
6 dian lands.”;

7 (5) by amending paragraph (13) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) as follows:

9 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

10 (i) by striking “full-time,”;
11 (ii) by inserting “on eligible service
12 lands” after “resource setting”; and
13 (iii) by striking “16” and inserting
14 “15”;

15 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking
16 “and” at the end;

17 (C) in subparagraph (C), by striking the
18 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

19 (D) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(D) makes available for audit for each fis-
21 cal year for which the qualified youth or con-
22 servation corps receives Federal funds under
23 this Act, all information pertaining to the ex-
24 penditure of the funds, any matching funds,
25 and participant demographics.”;

1 (6) by inserting after paragraph 13 (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

3 “(14) RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION CENTERS.—The term ‘residential conservation centers’ means the facilities authorized under section 205.”;

6 (7) in paragraph (15) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking “206” and inserting “206(a)(1)”;

9 (8) in paragraph (16) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))—

11 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

13 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

15 (C) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(C) with respect to the National Marine Sanctuary System, coral reefs, and other coastal, estuarine, and marine habitats, and other lands and facilities administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Secretary of Commerce.”.

22 (e) PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE CORPS PROGRAM.—Section 204 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1723), as amended by subsection (a), is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) and
2 subsections (d) through (f) as subsections (c) and
3 (d) and subsections (f) through (h), respectively;

4 (2) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
5 following:

6 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE
7 CORPS.—There is established in the Department of the
8 Interior, the Department of Agriculture, and the Depart-
9 ment of Commerce a Public Lands Service Corps.

10 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF CORPS OFFICE; COORDI-
11 NATORS; LIAISON.—

12 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES.—

13 “(A) DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.—
14 The Secretary of the Interior shall establish a
15 department-level office to coordinate the Corps
16 activities within the Department of the Interior.

17 “(B) DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—
18 The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish
19 within the Forest Service an office to coordinate
20 the Corps activities within that agency.

21 “(C) DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.—The
22 Secretary of Commerce shall establish within
23 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin-
24 istration an office to coordinate the Corps ac-
25 tivities within that agency.

1 “(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF COORDINATORS.—

2 The Secretary shall designate a Public Lands Service Corps coordinator for each agency under the jurisdiction of the Secretary that administers Corps activities.

6 “(3) ESTABLISHMENT OF LIAISON.—The Secretary of the Interior shall establish an Indian Youth Service Corps liaison that will—

9 “(A) provide outreach to Indian tribes about opportunities for establishing Corps and Indian Youth Service Corps programs; and

12 “(B) coordinate with the Tribal Liaison of the Corporation for National Service to identify and establish Corps and Indian Youth Service Corps opportunities for Indian youth.”;

16 (3) by amending subsection (c) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) to read as follows:

18 “(c) PARTICIPANTS.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enroll in the Corps individuals who are—

21 “(A) hired by an agency under the jurisdiction of the Secretary to perform work authorized under this Act; or

24 “(B) members of a qualified youth or conservation corps with which the Secretary has

1 entered into a cooperative agreement to perform
2 work authorized under this Act.

3 “(2) RESOURCE ASSISTANTS AND CONSULTING
4 INTERNS.—The Secretary may also enroll in the
5 Corps resource assistants and consulting interns in
6 accordance with section 206(a).

7 “(3) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligi-
8 ble for enrollment as a Corps participant, an indi-
9 vidual shall—

10 “(A) be between the ages of 15 and 25, in-
11 clusive; and

12 “(B) satisfy the requirements of section
13 137(a)(5) of the National and Community Serv-
14 ice Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12591(a)(5)).

15 “(4) TERMS.—Each Corps participant may be
16 enrolled in the Corps for a term of up to 2 years of
17 service, which may be served over a period that ex-
18 ceeds 2 calendar years.

19 “(5) CIVIL SERVICE.—An individual may be en-
20 rolled as a Corps participant without regard to the
21 civil service and classification laws, rules, or regula-
22 tions of the United States.

23 “(6) PREFERENCE.—The Secretary may estab-
24 lish a preference for the enrollment as Corps partici-

1 pants individuals who are economically, physically,
2 or educationally disadvantaged.”;

3 (4) in subsection (d) (as redesignated by para-
4 graph (1))—

5 (A) in paragraph (1)—

6 (i) by striking “contracts and”; and

7 (ii) by striking “subsection (d)” and
8 inserting “subsection (f)”;

9 (B) by striking paragraph (2); and

10 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
11 following:

12 “(2) RECRUITMENT.—The Secretary shall carry
13 out, or enter into cooperative agreements to provide,
14 a program to attract eligible youth to the Corps by
15 publicizing Corps opportunities through high schools,
16 colleges, employment centers, electronic media, and
17 other appropriate institutions and means.

18 “(3) PREFERENCE.—In entering into coopera-
19 tive agreements under paragraph (1) or awarding
20 competitive grants to Indian tribes or tribally au-
21 thorized organizations under section 207, the Sec-
22 retary may give preference to qualified youth or con-
23 servation corps that are located in specific areas
24 where a substantial portion of members are economi-
25 cally, physically, or educationally disadvantaged.”;

1 (5) by inserting after subsection (d) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

3 “(e) TRAINING.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a training program based at appropriate residential conservation centers or at other suitable regional Federal or other appropriate facilities or sites to provide training for Corps participants.

9 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In establishing a training program under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

12 “(A) ensure that the duration and comprehensiveness of the training program shall be commensurate with the projects Corps participants are expected to undertake;

16 “(B) develop department-wide standards for the program that include training in—

18 “(i) resource stewardship;

19 “(ii) health and safety;

20 “(iii) ethics for individuals in public service;

22 “(iv) teamwork and leadership; and

23 “(v) interpersonal communications;

24 “(C) direct the participating agencies within the Department of the Interior, the Forest

1 Service in the case of the Department of Agriculture,
2 and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in the case of the Department of Commerce, to develop agency-specific training guidelines to ensure that Corps participants are appropriately informed about matters specific to that agency, including—

8 “(i) the history and organization of
9 the agency;

10 “(ii) the mission of the agency; and

11 “(iii) any agency-specific standards
12 for the management of natural, cultural,
13 historic, archaeological, recreational, and
14 scenic resources; and

15 “(D) take into account training already received by Corps participants enrolled from qualified youth or conservation corps.”;

18 (6) in subsection (f) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))—

20 (A) in paragraph (1)—

21 (i) in the heading, by striking “IN
22 GENERAL.—” and inserting “USE OF
23 CORPS; PROJECTS.—”;

24 (ii) by striking “The Secretary may utilize the Corps or any qualified youth or

1 conservation corps to carry out” and in-
2 serting the following:

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
4 use the Corps to carry out, with appropriate su-
5 pervision and training,”;

6 (iii) by striking “on public lands” and
7 inserting on “on eligible service lands”;
8 and

9 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(B) PROJECTS.—Appropriate natural and
12 cultural resources conservation projects carried
13 out under this section may include—

14 “(i) protecting, restoring, or enhanc-
15 ing ecosystem components to promote spe-
16 cies recovery, improve biological diversity,
17 enhance productivity and carbon sequestra-
18 tion, and enhance adaptability and resil-
19 ience of eligible service lands and resources
20 to climate change and other natural and
21 human disturbances;

22 “(ii) promoting the health of eligible
23 service lands, including—

24 “(I) protecting and restoring wa-
25 tersheds and forest, grassland, ripar-

1 ian, estuarine, marine, or other habi-
2 tat;

3 “(II) reducing the risk of
4 uncharacteristically severe wildfire
5 and mitigating damage from insects,
6 disease, and disasters;

7 “(III) controlling erosion;

8 “(IV) controlling and removing
9 invasive, noxious, or nonnative spe-
10 cies; and

11 “(V) restoring native species;

12 “(iii) collecting biological, archae-
13 ological, and other scientific data, includ-
14 ing climatological information, species pop-
15 ulations and movement, habitat status, and
16 other information;

17 “(iv) assisting in historical and cul-
18 tural research, museum curatorial work,
19 oral history projects, documentary photog-
20 raphy, and activities that support the cre-
21 ation of public works of art related to eligi-
22 ble service lands; and

23 “(v) constructing, repairing, rehabili-
24 tating, and maintaining roads, trails,
25 campgrounds and other visitor facilities,

1 employee housing, cultural and historic
2 sites and structures, and other facilities
3 that further the purposes of this Act.”;

4 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and
5 (3) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively; and
6 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the

7 following:

8 “(2) VISITOR SERVICES.—The Secretary may—

9 “(A) enter into or amend an existing coop-
10 erative agreement with a cooperating associa-
11 tion, educational institution, friends group, or
12 similar nonprofit partner organization for the
13 purpose of providing training and work experi-
14 ence to Corps participants in areas such as
15 sales, office work, accounting, and management,
16 provided that the work experience directly re-
17 lates to the conservation and management of el-
18 igible service lands; and

19 “(B) allow Corps participants to help pro-
20 mote visitor safety and enjoyment of eligible
21 service lands, and assist in the gathering of vis-
22 itor use data.

23 “(3) INTERPRETATION.—The Secretary may
24 permit Corps participants to provide interpretation

1 or education services for the public under the direct
2 and immediate supervision of an agency employee—

3 “(A) to provide orientation and informa-
4 tion services to visitors;

5 “(B) to assist agency employees in the de-
6 livery of interpretive or educational programs
7 where audience size, environmental conditions,
8 safety, or other factors make such assistance
9 desirable;

10 “(C) to present programs that relate the
11 personal experience of the Corps participants
12 for the purpose of promoting public awareness
13 of the Corps, the role of the Corps in public
14 land management agencies, and the availability
15 of the Corps to potential participants; and

16 “(D) to create nonpersonal interpretive
17 products, such as website content, Junior Ranger
18 program books, printed handouts, and audio-
19 visual programs.”;

20 (7) in subsection (g) (as redesignated by para-
21 graph (1))—

22 (A) in the matter preceding the first para-
23 graph, by striking “those projects which” and
24 inserting “priority projects and other projects
25 that”; and

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

3 “(2) will instill in Corps participants a work
4 ethic and a sense of public service;”; and

5 (8) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(i) OTHER PARTICIPANTS.—The Secretary may
7 allow volunteers from other programs administered or des-
8 ignated by the Secretary to participate as volunteers in
9 projects carried out under this section.

10 (j) CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECKS.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of sec-
12 tion 189D(b) of the National and Community Serv-
13 ice Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12645g(b)) shall apply
14 to each individual age 18 or older seeking—

15 “(A) to become a Corps participant;

16 “(B) to receive funds authorized under this
17 Act; or

18 “(C) to supervise or otherwise have regular
19 contact with Corps participants in activities au-
20 thorized under this Act.

“(2) ELIGIBILITY PROHIBITION.—If any of paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 189D(c) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12645g(c)(1)–(4)) apply to an individual described in paragraph (1), that individual shall not

1 be eligible for the position or activity described in
2 paragraph (1), unless the Secretary provides an ex-
3 emption for good cause.”.

4 (f) RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION CENTERS AND
5 PROGRAM SUPPORT.—Section 205 (16 U.S.C. 1724) of
6 the Act is amended—

7 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**CON-**
8 **SERVATION**” and inserting “**RESIDENTIAL CON-**
9 **SERVATION**”;

10 (2) in subsection (a)—

11 (A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as
12 follows:

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may estab-
14 lish residential conservation centers for—

15 “(A) such housing, food service, medical
16 care, transportation, and other services as the
17 Secretary deems necessary for Corps partici-
18 pants; and

19 “(B) the conduct of appropriate natural
20 and cultural resources conservation projects
21 under this Act.”;

22 (B) by striking paragraph (2);

23 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and
24 (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively;

- 1 (D) in paragraph (2) (as redesignated by
2 subparagraph (C)), in the heading, by striking
3 “FOR CONSERVATION CENTERS”; and
4 (E) in paragraph (3) (as redesignated by
5 subparagraph (C)), by striking “a State or local
6 government agency” and inserting “another
7 Federal agency, State, local government,”;
8 (3) in subsection (b)—
9 (A) by striking “The Secretary” and in-
10 serting the following:
11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and
12 (B) by adding at the end the following:
13 “(2) TEMPORARY HOUSING.—The Secretary
14 may make arrangements with another Federal agen-
15 cy, State, local government, or private organization
16 to provide temporary housing for Corps participants
17 as needed and available.
18 “(3) TRANSPORTATION.—In project areas
19 where Corps participants can reasonably be expected
20 to reside at their own homes, the Secretary may
21 fund or provide transportation to and from project
22 sites.”;
23 (4) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
24 section (f);

1 (5) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(d) FACILITIES.—The Secretary may, as an appro-
4 priate natural and cultural resources conservation project,
5 direct Corps participants to aid in the construction or re-
6 habilitation of residential conservation center facilities, in-
7 cluding housing.

8 “(e) MENTORS.—The Secretary may recruit from
9 programs, such as Federal volunteer and encore service
10 programs, and from veterans groups, military retirees, and
11 active duty personnel, such adults as may be suitable and
12 qualified to provide training, mentoring, and crew-leading
13 services to Corps participants.”; and

14 (6) in subsection (f) (as redesignated by para-
15 graph (4)), by striking “that are appropriate” and
16 all that follows through the period and inserting
17 “that the Secretary determines to be necessary for
18 a residential conservation center.”.

19 (g) RESOURCE ASSISTANTS AND CONSULTING IN-
20 TERNS.—Section 206 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1725) is
21 amended—

22 (1) in the section heading, by inserting “**AND**
23 **CONSULTING INTERNS**” before the period;

24 (2) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and in-
25 serting the following:

1 “(a) AUTHORIZATION.—

2 “(1) RESOURCE ASSISTANTS.—

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
4 provide individual placements of resource assistants with any agency under the jurisdiction of
5 the Secretary that carries out appropriate natural and cultural resources conservation
6 projects to carry out research or resource protection activities on behalf of the agency.

7 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for se-
8 lection as a resource assistant, an individual
9 shall be at least 17 years of age.

10 “(C) PREFERENCE.—In selecting resource
11 assistants for placement under this paragraph,
12 the Secretary shall give a preference to individ-
13 uals who are enrolled in an institution of higher
14 education or are recent graduates from an insti-
15 tution of higher education, with particular at-
16 tention given to ensuring full representation of
17 women and participants from Historically Black
18 Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-serving in-
19 stitutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.

20 “(2) CONSULTING INTERNS.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
22 provide individual placements of consulting in-

1 terns with any agency under the jurisdiction of
2 the Secretary that carries out appropriate nat-
3 ural and cultural resources conservation
4 projects to carry out management analysis ac-
5 tivities on behalf of the agency.

6 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for se-
7 lection as a consulting intern, an individual
8 shall be enrolled in, and have completed at least
9 1 full year at, a graduate or professional school
10 that has been accredited by an accrediting body
11 recognized by the Secretary of Education.

12 “(b) USE OF EXISTING NONPROFIT ORGANIZA-
13 TIONS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Whenever 1 or more non-
15 profit organizations can provide appropriate recruit-
16 ment and placement services to fulfill the require-
17 ments of this section, the Secretary may implement
18 this section through such organizations.

19 “(2) EXPENSES.—Participating organizations
20 shall contribute to the expenses of providing and
21 supporting the resource assistants or consulting in-
22 terns from sources of funding other than the Sec-
23 retary, at a level of not less than 25 percent of the
24 total costs (15 percent of which may be from in-kind
25 sources) of each participant in the resource assistant

1 or consulting intern program who has been recruited
2 and placed through that organization.

3 “(3) REPORTING.—Each participating organi-
4 zation shall be required to submit an annual report
5 evaluating the scope, size, and quality of the pro-
6 gram, including the value of work contributed by the
7 resource assistants and consulting interns, to the
8 mission of the agency.”.

9 (h) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The Act is amended
10 by redesignating sections 207 through 211 (16 U.S.C.
11 1726 through 1730) as sections 209 through 213, respec-
12 tively.

13 (i) INDIAN YOUTH SERVICE CORPS.—The Act is
14 amended by inserting after section 206 (16 U.S.C. 1725)
15 the following:

16 **“SEC. 207. INDIAN YOUTH SERVICE CORPS.**

17 “(a) AUTHORIZATION OF COOPERATIVE AGREE-
18 MENTS AND COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—The Secretary is au-
19 thorized to enter into cooperative agreements with, or
20 make competitive grants to, Indian tribes and qualified
21 youth or conservation corps for the establishment and ad-
22 ministration of Indian Youth Service Corps programs to
23 carry out appropriate natural and cultural resources con-
24 servation projects on Indian lands.

1 “(b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive assist-
2 ance under this section, an Indian tribe or a qualified
3 youth or conservation corps shall submit to the Secretary
4 an application in such manner and containing such infor-
5 mation as the Secretary may require, including—

6 “(1) a description of the methods by which In-
7 dian youth will be recruited for and retained in the
8 Indian Youth Service Corps;

9 “(2) a description of the projects to be carried
10 out by the Indian Youth Service Corps;

11 “(3) a description of how the projects were
12 identified; and

13 “(4) an explanation of the impact of, and the
14 direct community benefits provided by, the proposed
15 projects.”.

16 (j) GUIDANCE.—The Act is amended by inserting
17 after section 207 (as amended by subsection (i)) the fol-
18 lowing:

19 **“SEC. 208. GUIDANCE.**

20 “Not later than 18 months after funds are made
21 available to the Secretary to carry out this Act, the Sec-
22 retary shall issue guidelines for the management of pro-
23 grams under the jurisdiction of the Secretary that are au-
24 thorized under this Act.”.

1 (k) LIVING ALLOWANCES AND TERMS OF SERV-
2 ICE.—Section 209 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1726) (as redes-
3 ignated by subsection (h)) is amended by striking sub-
4 sections (a), (b), and (c) and inserting the following:

5 “(a) LIVING ALLOWANCES.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide
7 each Corps participant with a living allowance in an
8 amount established by the Secretary.

9 “(2) TRAVEL COSTS.—The Secretary may reim-
10 burse Corps participants for travel costs at the be-
11 ginning and end of the term of service of the Corps
12 participants.

13 “(b) TERMS OF SERVICE.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Corps participant
15 shall agree to participate for such term of service as
16 may be established by the Secretary.

17 “(2) CONSULTATIONS.—With respect to the In-
18 dian Youth Service Corps, the term of service shall
19 be established in consultation with the affected In-
20 dian tribe or tribally authorized organization.

21 “(c) HIRING PREFERENCE AND FUTURE EMPLOY-
22 MENT.—The Secretary may—

23 “(1) grant to a Corps participant credit for
24 time served as a Corps participant, which may be
25 used toward future Federal hiring;

1 “(2) provide to a former participant of the
2 Corps or the Indian Youth Service Corps non-
3 competitive hiring status for a period of not more
4 than 2 years after the date on which the service of
5 the candidate in the Corps or the Indian Youth
6 Service Corps was complete, if the candidate—

7 “(A) has served a minimum of 960 hours
8 on an appropriate natural or cultural resources
9 conservation project that included at least 120
10 hours through the Corps or the Indian Youth
11 Service Corps; and

12 “(B) meets Office of Personnel Manage-
13 ment qualification standards for the position for
14 which the candidate is applying;

15 “(3) provide to a former resource assistant or
16 consulting intern noncompetitive hiring status for a
17 period of not more than 2 years after the date on
18 which the individual has completed an under-
19 graduate or graduate degree, respectively, from an
20 accredited institution, if the candidate—

21 “(A) successfully fulfilled the resource as-
22 sistant or consulting intern program require-
23 ments; and

1 “(B) meets Office of Personnel Manage-
2 ment qualification standards for the position for
3 which the candidate is applying; and
4 “(4) provide, or enter into contracts or coopera-
5 tive agreements with qualified employment agencies
6 to provide, alumni services such as job and edu-
7 cation counseling, referrals, verification of service,
8 communications, and other appropriate services to
9 Corps participants who have completed the term of
10 service.”.

11 (1) NATIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.—
12 Section 210 (16 U.S.C. 1727) of the Act (as redesignated
13 by subsection (h)) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a) (as amended by subsection
15 (a)(4)), in the first sentence—

16 (A) by striking “participant in the Corps
17 or a resource assistant” and inserting “Corps
18 participant”; and

19 (B) by striking “participant or resource as-
20 sistant” and inserting “Corps participant”; and

21 (2) in subsection (b)—

22 (A) by striking “either participants in the
23 Corps or resource assistants” and inserting
24 “Corps participants”; and

25 (B) by striking “or a resource assistant”.

1 (m) NONDISPLACEMENT.—Section 211 of the Act
2 (16 U.S.C. 1728) (as redesignated by subsection (h)) is
3 amended by striking “activities carried out” and all that
4 follows through the period and inserting “Corps partici-
5 pants.”.

6 (n) FUNDING.—Section 212 of the Act (16 U.S.C.
7 1729) (as redesignated by subsection (h)) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (a)—

9 (A) in paragraph (1)—

10 (i) in the second sentence, by striking
11 “non-federal sources” and inserting
12 “sources other than the Secretary”; and

13 (ii) by inserting after the second sen-
14 tence the following: “The Secretary may
15 pay up to 90 percent of the costs of a
16 project if the Secretary determines that the
17 reduction is necessary to enable participa-
18 tion from a greater range of organizations
19 or individuals.”; and

20 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or In-
21 dian Youth Service Corps” after “Corps” each
22 place it appears;

23 (2) by amending subsection (b) to read as fol-
24 lows:

1 “(b) FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER NATIONAL AND
2 COMMUNITY SERVICE ACT.—To carry out this Act, the
3 Secretary shall be eligible to apply for and receive assist-
4 ance under section 121(b) of the National and Community
5 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 12571(b)).”; and

6 (3) in subsection (e)—

7 (A) by striking “section 211” and insert-
8 ing “section 213”; and

9 (B) by inserting “or Indian Youth Service
10 Corps” after “Corps”.

11 (o) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
12 213 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1730) (as redesignated by sub-
13 section (h)) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “year” and all
15 that follows through the period and inserting
16 “year.”;

17 (2) by striking subsection (b); and

18 (3) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
19 section (b).

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